

Ministry of Government Relations

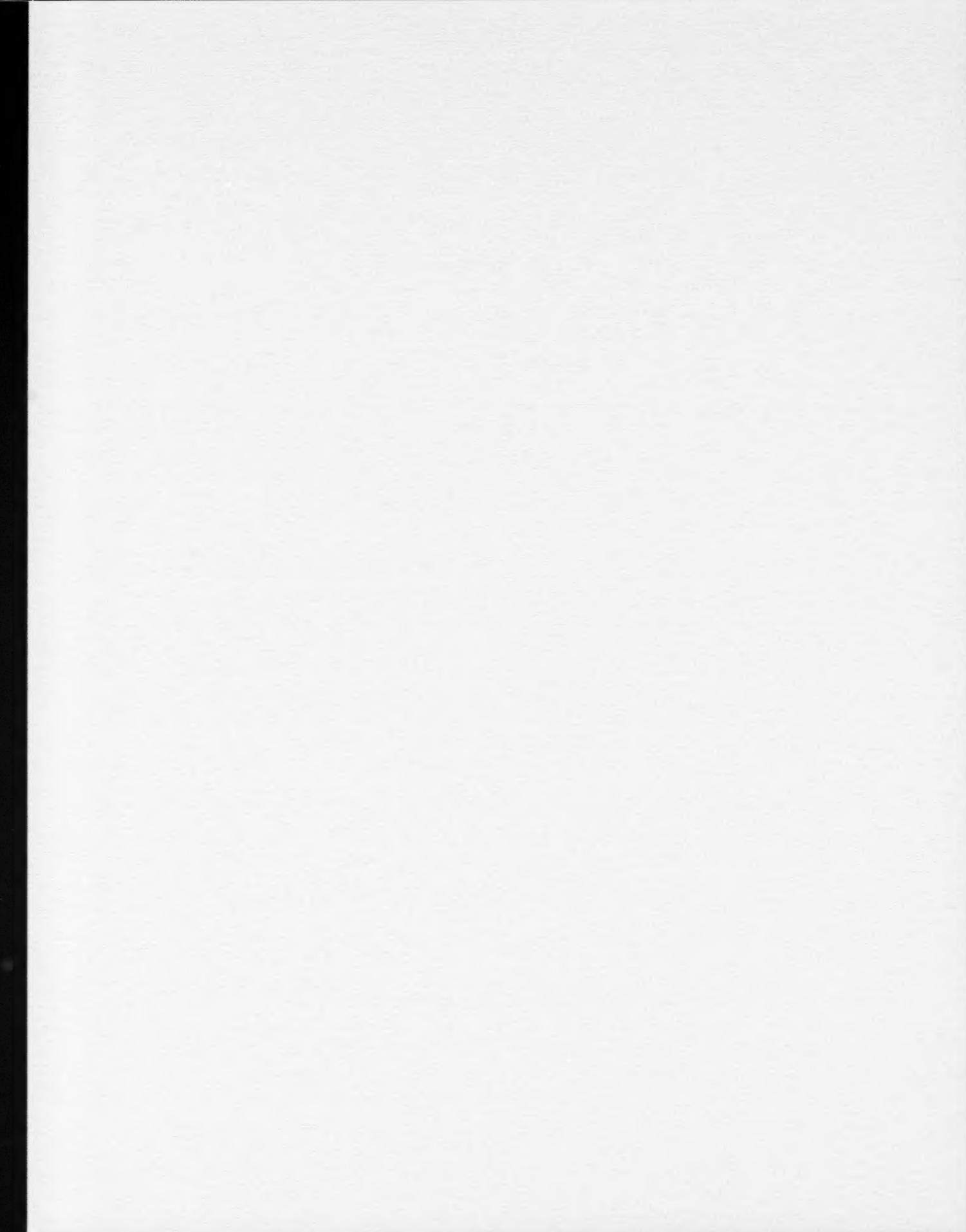


Annual Report for 2013-14



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Letters of Transmittal



Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield,
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Government Relations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014.

The ministry's report reflects our government's commitment to increasing accountability, to honouring our promises, and to responsibly managing public expenditures. The programs and policies of the ministry help advance overall government priorities of growth, sustainability and quality of life, and are aligned with the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth.

The accomplishments of the ministry in 2013-14 are described in the pages that follow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Reiter".

Jim Reiter
Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs



The Honourable Jim Reiter
Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

On behalf of ministry staff, I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Government Relations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all ministry staff for their good work throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of our partners in helping to make this past year a success.

This report has been prepared and carefully reviewed under my direction, and I acknowledge responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, and reliability of the information contained herein. I also accept responsibility for the financial administration and management control of the ministry.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Hilton".

Alan Hilton
Deputy Minister of Government Relations and
Deputy Minister of First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Introduction

This Annual Report for the Ministry of Government Relations presents the ministry's results on activities and outcomes for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. It reports to the public and elected officials on public commitments made and other key accomplishments of the ministry.

Although a renewed vision in the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth – Vision 2020 and Beyond was introduced in October 2012, the 2013-14 Annual Report will be presented in relation to the vision and goals that guided the development of the 2013-14 Plan.

Results are provided on publicly committed strategies, actions and performance measures identified in the 2013-14 Plan.

The report also demonstrates progress made on government commitments as stated in the Government Direction for 2013-14: Balanced Growth, the Minister's Mandate letter, throne speeches and other commitments and activities of the ministry.

The Annual Report demonstrates the ministry's commitment to effective public performance reporting, transparency and accountability to the public.

Alignment with Government's Direction

The ministry's activities in 2013-14 align with the government's vision and four goals:

Our Government's Vision

A strong and growing Saskatchewan, the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life.

Government's Goals

- Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people.
- Improving our quality of life.
- Making life affordable.
- Delivering responsive and responsible government.

Together, all ministries and agencies support the achievement of the government's four goals and work towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

Ministry Overview

The Ministry of Government Relations' mandate is:

With responsibility for municipal relations, public safety, and First Nations, Métis and northern affairs, the ministry actively engages a diverse range of partners and stakeholders to: effectively plan for and respond to the opportunities and challenges of growth; provide leadership and direction so that integrated public safety services are available to communities and their residents; and support responsive and responsible government.

The organizational structure aligns with our mandate:

- Public Safety and Corporate Services Division
- Municipal Relations and Northern Engagement Division
- Policy and Program Services Branch
- Office of the Provincial Interlocutor
- Lands and Consultation Branch
- Communications Branch

The Ministry of Government Relations' total 2013-14 full-time equivalent (FTE) utilization was 274.4, representing a variance of 51.3 FTEs above the budget of 223.1 FTEs. The variance results from the hiring of term staff in the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program to help process claims.

The ministry has locations across the province, with staff in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, La Ronge, and Buffalo Narrows.

Progress in 2013 - 14

Government Goal: Growth

Strategy - Build relationships and develop partnerships with and between municipalities, First Nations and Métis communities, and industry that advance the government's Growth Agenda

Key Actions & Results

Work with the municipal sector and Canada on a long-term, predictable and sustainable approach to infrastructure by:

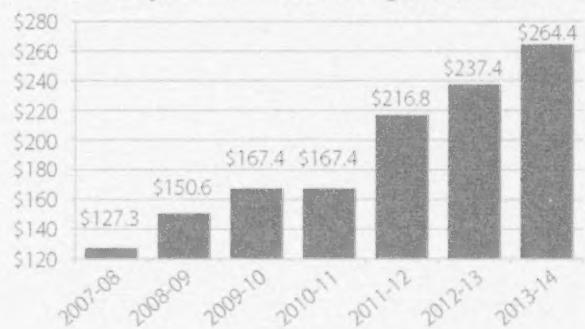
- *ensuring existing programs are concluded effectively and efficiently;*
- *designing new programs for 2014 and beyond; and,*
- *identifying categories of priority and/or strategic infrastructure investments for the future.*
- Officials from the Ministry of Government Relations continue to work with funding recipients to manage projects and ensure accountability under existing infrastructure programs:
 - Projects were completed, final payments were made and project management work was performed within the Provincial/Territorial Base Fund program.
 - Under the Building Canada Fund-Communities Component program, several projects were completed and final payments were made.
 - Payments were made and program oversight was provided for the Major Infrastructure Component program and the Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative.
 - Compliance requirements continued to be fulfilled for the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund program.
- On March 28, 2014, the federal government launched the New Building Canada Fund, a \$14 billion fund that will support projects of national, regional, and local significance that promote economic growth, job creation, and productivity. Discussions between provincial and federal officials took place regarding program details in February and March of 2014.
- Negotiation of the bilateral agreement renewing the Gas Tax Fund, including consultation with the municipal sector, occurred through December-March. The new agreement will be in place early in 2014-15.

- Staff worked with municipalities regarding municipal financial reporting and other municipal-compliance issues related to various municipal contribution agreements. This resulted in an additional \$2.8 million being distributed to municipalities that became compliant in 2013-14 under the Gas Tax Fund.

- Through the Long-term Infrastructure Initiative, the ministry, working with the municipal sector, completed the development of options for a long-term approach towards municipal infrastructure that includes enhanced infrastructure planning at the municipal and regional levels.

- The ministry provided revenue sharing funding to municipalities equivalent to one per cent of the Provincial Sales Tax. The following chart displays the amount of revenue sharing distributed to municipalities since 2007-08.

Municipal Revenue Sharing (millions)



- This level of commitment aligns with the Government of Saskatchewan's promise to develop a long-term revenue sharing plan with the municipal sector that is linked to the performance of the province's economy.

Provide \$300 million in five-year interest-free loans through the Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative to assist municipalities in developing the infrastructure for housing, commercial and industrial construction (2007 Mandate Letter, 2007 Throne Speech)

- The Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative is ongoing until 2016-17. Payments continue to be made on approved projects.
- In 2013-14, \$5.1 million was provided to subsidize interest payments.
- In total, \$209.9 million in borrowing was approved for interest subsidy payments, supporting 112 projects in 82 municipalities. The projects approved will contribute to the development of 2,575 residential lots, ten commercial lot projects, two industrial lot projects,

47 off-site projects, and three recreation projects to support growth. The province has expensed \$24 million in interest subsidies to 79 municipalities from program inception to March 31, 2014.

Develop and implement strategies and activities designed to increase the municipal sector's ability to undertake regional planning, with a particular focus on areas around the province's larger centres

- The *Planning and Development Act, 2007* was amended to enable regional planning authorities as a tool to address regional issues between cities and adjacent rural municipalities.
- The ministry approved the establishment of seven new district planning commissions involving 35 rural and urban municipalities.

Continue to work with the municipal sector to enhance professional and administration capacity in all areas, focusing on financial reporting and enforcement and regional planning to support growth and economic development (2010 Mandate Letter)

- Ongoing support and advice was provided by ministry staff to municipalities in these areas.
- Three Planning for Growth (PFG) projects were completed. PFG seeks to enhance regional planning capacity in support of growth and development across the province. The Municipal Capacity Development Program and PFG were funded under the federal Gas Tax program from unallocated funds and interest earnings.
- A new accounting manual for municipalities was completed and posted on Saskatchewan's website.
- The ministry continued to train and support staff in northern municipalities through the delivery of accounting training in partnership with New North and the Northern Local Government Administrators program.

Continue to strengthen relationships with municipal partners, the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association and the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (2010 Mandate Letter)

- The ministry worked with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) and the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) in a number of ways that strengthen the relationships, including: the Municipal Programs and Services Steering Committee, the Municipal Sector Strategic Partnership, and the Long-term Infrastructure Initiative Committee.

- Ministry officials attended numerous meetings with SARM and SUMA, and attended SARM, SUMA, Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS), Rural Municipal Administrators Association (RMAA), and Provincial Association of Resort Communities conventions in 2013-14.
- Ministry officials attended two Northern Mayors' meetings hosted by New North in Prince Albert in November 2013 and March 2014.

Work with other ministries, agencies, and select communities to design and implement an improved government response to assist areas experiencing rapid growth

- The ministry led the establishment of a multi-ministry Rapid Growth Communities Team to support growth in the Jansen-Humboldt region. An assessment report was completed for the region to identify potential areas of concern related to municipal and provincial services and infrastructure. Based on lessons learned from this pilot project, the team is developing a plan to assist other high-growth regions in the future.

Support dialogue and partnerships in northern resource development decisions

- The province co-hosted with Alberta the Northern Development Ministers Forum in Fort McMurray in fall 2013. The ministry presented to the ministers on Canadian trends in benefit agreements between resource developers and northern (largely Aboriginal) communities. Ministers directed Saskatchewan to lead further research, to be reported on in 2014 and 2015, on how these agreements provide benefits to communities and companies involved.
- Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee (NSEQC) program delivery included: six mine site tours, two all-NSEQC meetings, two site-specific workshops held with industry, NSEQC representatives' presentations in two Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission hearings concerning five northern uranium mine/mill licensing applications, and participation in the 2013 annual Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association Conference. As well, the NSEQC published its annual report to communities, issued five newsletters to its representatives, and provided updates on its activities in the five issues of the *Opportunity North* business magazine.

Negotiate and administer mine surface lease agreements to enable and encourage maximum training, employment, and business opportunities for northerners

- The ministry posted to its website and distributed its second annual statistical summary of northern mining companies' performance in delivering on their best efforts commitments (in the mine surface lease agreements) to provide local benefits for northern residents. Companies have significantly increased the number of northern workers and the value of northern purchases over the years. The annual *Northern Socioeconomic Benefits Summary* is a valuable tool in helping to raise community awareness and inform government policy-makers.
- Working collaboratively with the Ministry of Environment in follow-up to a Lean initiative, the ministry amended the jointly administered mine surface lease agreements to better define the ministries' respective roles and responsibilities, and to clarify the language and structure of the agreements. The overall result is more effective and timely client services.

Undertake a public safety reform project to develop and maintain a modern, effective regulatory system that will:

- ensure timely adoption of codes and standards, such as the *National Building Code* and the *National Fire Code*;
- align and simplify legislation and regulations pertaining to public safety; and,
- advance a new training curriculum and inter-jurisdictional qualifications acceptance process for building officials to meet demands of owners and industry.
- The ministry developed and consulted stakeholders on a new *Fire Safety Act* for consideration in fall 2014, and prepared updates to building officials' regulations to meet labour mobility requirements under trade agreements.
- Specific results regarding Building Official Licences and Gas and Electrical Licensing, as of March 31, 2014, are as follows:
 - The number of licensed building officials in the province has grown to 228, a 27.4 per cent increase over the past five years.
 - There are three classes of building officials licences, with Class 3 being the most advanced. The number of Class 3 building officials has grown to 47, a 95.8 per cent increase from 2009 to 2013.
 - For Gas and Licensing, the number of licences has increased significantly from 2009 to 2013. Five-year electrical contractor licences have risen to 1,097,

a 195 per cent increase; five-year electrical journeyperson licences have risen to 7,279, a 186 per cent increase; five-year gas contractor licences have risen to 781, a 191 per cent increase; and five-year gas fitter licences have risen to 2,728, a 206 per cent increase.

Work with First Nations, Métis and stakeholders to advance shared policy objectives and practical arrangements that improve outcomes for First Nations and Métis people

- The Premier and the Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) signed a new Bilateral Protocol on August 23, 2013. The protocol provides an opportunity for the province and the FSIN to work together in practical ways to improve the outcomes of First Nations people.
- The ministry worked with other ministries on priorities aligned with Saskatchewan's Plan for Growth, including the Joint Task Force (JTF) on Improving Education and Employment Outcomes for First Nations and Métis People. The JTF released its final report in April 2013, and the government provided its formal response in January 2014.
- The Office of the Provincial Interlocutor developed a new grant program to support innovative partnerships and projects that align with government priorities and updated its sponsorship grant program to assist with public events benefiting Aboriginal people:
 - First Nations and Métis Community Engagement Projects involve practical arrangements and partnerships with First Nations and Métis communities or organizations. Thirteen grants totalling \$375,977 were provided to support initiatives, such as the Aboriginal Youth Leadership Symposium and the Prince Albert High School Emergency Services Response Training Program.
 - The sponsorship grant program provided 22 grants totalling \$76,250 to support initiatives, such as the Back to Batoche Festival Days and the Saskatchewan First Nation Summer Games.
- In 2013-14, the ministry also:
 - Supported the Aboriginal Friendship Centres of Saskatchewan, a non-profit organization that supports positive outcomes for First Nations and Métis people, in its innovative Aboriginal Youth Leadership Symposium. The symposium brought 17 Aboriginal youth from around Saskatchewan to work and learn from successful Aboriginal leaders in areas such as finance, governance, leadership strategies, wellness, and traditional knowledge.

- Acted as government's point of contact for the Muskowekwan on-reserve potash project.
- Supported the Ministry of Social Services' efforts to engage Aboriginal input on the Disability Strategy.

Facilitate power generation partnership opportunities for First Nations and Métis organizations (2010 Mandate Letter)

- The ministry continued to work with SaskPower to involve First Nations in power generation partnership opportunities, such as those arising through the First Nations Power Authority (FNPA). The FNPA is a not-for-profit entity created to facilitate the development of First Nations-led power projects with SaskPower and promote First Nations participation in procurement opportunities with SaskPower. The ministry provided funding through First Nations and Métis Community Engagement Projects to the FNPA.
- The ministry provided funding through the First Nations and Métis Community Engagement Projects initiative to Meadow Lake Tribal Council in relation to its biomass power project.

Facilitate consistent implementation of the First Nation and Métis Consultation Policy Framework to ensure duty to consult objectives and obligations are met and First Nation and Métis relationships are strengthened

- The ministry released the *Proponent Handbook – Voluntary Engagement with First Nations and Métis Communities to Inform Government's Duty to Consult Process*, a document which clarifies the role of proponents and provides guidance on gathering and documenting relevant information.
- Staff delivered a number of presentations and training workshops on the *First Nation and Métis Consultation Policy Framework* to various ministries, agencies, and Crown corporations.
- The ministry presented information on the framework at a Mining Development Forum for northern First Nation groups and members of the NSEQC.

Ensure the efficient implementation of provincial obligations under the First Nations Gaming Framework Agreement and the agreement with the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan

- Payments to the First Nations Trust (FNT) and the Community Development Corporations (CDCs) are used for economic and social development purposes in all First Nation communities in Saskatchewan. In addition, non-First Nation charitable groups in the communities where the casinos are located benefit from these proceeds.

- The ministry distributed \$54.9 million to the FNT, representing 25 per cent of the estimated net profits of the two casinos operated by the Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation and 50 per cent of the estimated net profits of the six on-reserve casinos operated by the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority.

- The ministry distributed \$21.4 million to four CDCs, representing 25 per cent of the estimated net profits earned by the on-reserve casinos.
- The FNT and CDCs are required to provide Government Relations with the following accountability reports: annual report, management letter, response to management letter, list of grant recipients, and auditor's letter of compliance.
 - Reviewed by the ministry, all 2012-13 reports were found to be in compliance with the Gaming Framework Agreement.
- Established through an agreement between the Government of Saskatchewan and the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, the Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF) stimulates economic development activities of Métis people and communities by providing equity for Métis businesses, support to community economic development initiatives, and assistance for the development of the management skills of new and existing Métis business owners and entrepreneurs. The ministry distributed \$2 million to the CCDF, representing its estimated share of 25 per cent of the Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation net profits.

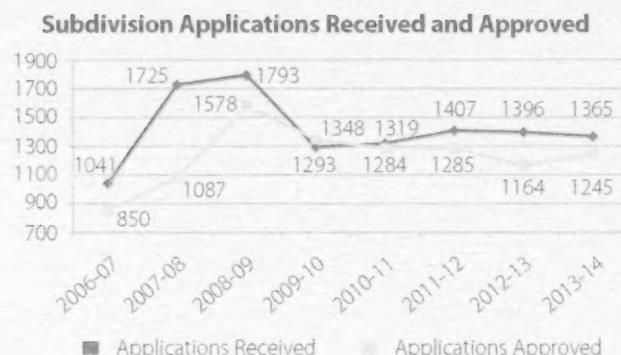
Performance Measures & Results

The following measures demonstrate progress in 2013-14 towards achieving the ministry's strategy to "build relationships and develop partnerships with and between municipalities, First Nations and Métis communities, and industry that advance the government's Growth Agenda."

Subdivision applications received and approved, and sites created

The subdivision of land is a key step for investment in economic growth as it precedes actual development. The elevated trend for lot development in the past seven years represents significant investment in land and property within the province.

Through the Integrated Subdivision Approval Program, the ministry reviewed the municipal/developer servicing agreements to ensure adequate infrastructure arrangements were in place to service the 1,245 subdivision applications the ministry approved for 3,340 new commercial, industrial, and residential lots.



Source: Government Relations – Community Planning

*Please note that the figures reported in both graphs may fluctuate slightly between reporting periods due to minor corrections in the database for decisions.

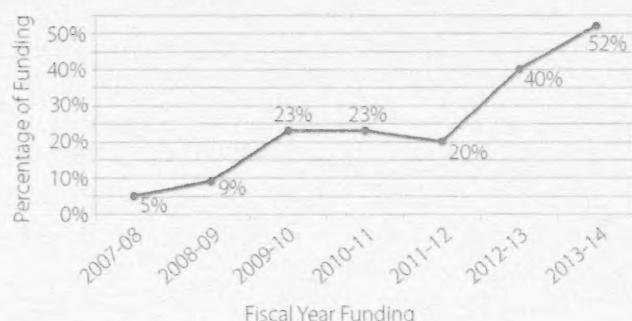


Source: Government Relations – Community Planning

Percentage of funding provided to communities with populations under 100,000 for regional water, wastewater and solid waste infrastructure through major federal-provincial cost-shared infrastructure programs (as a percentage of total funding)

Funding has been committed to regional infrastructure to support growth. Clean water is essential for a high quality of life in our province. To achieve this, the ministry continued to provide a high proportion of funding to several important regional projects under the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component in 2013-14.

Regional Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Infrastructure Projects

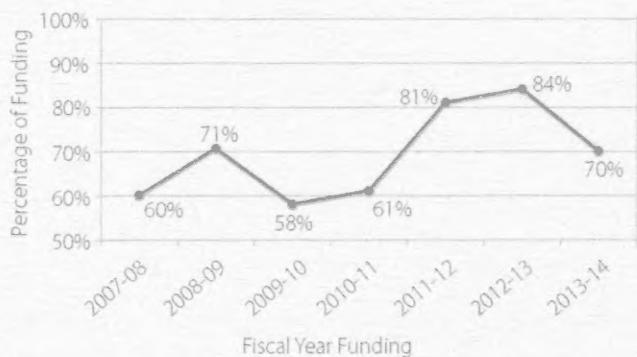


Source: Government Relations – Municipal Infrastructure and Finance

Proportion of infrastructure investment provided for public environmental and safety projects (water, wastewater, and solid waste projects) through federal-provincial cost-shared programs (as a percentage of total funding)

To support growth and development, the ministry placed a high priority on public safety projects for federal-provincial funding under the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component. These projects peaked in 2012-13. From 2012-13 to 2013-14, many sport/culture/recreation/local roadway projects were completed, reflected in the 2013-14 change in funding proportions.

Public Safety Infrastructure Projects



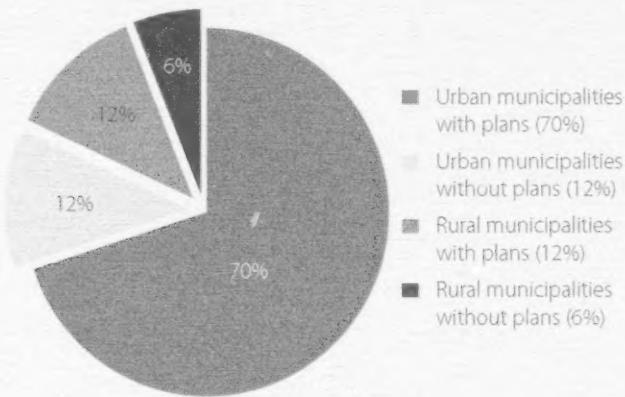
Source: Government Relations – Municipal Infrastructure and Finance

Percentage of the population living in municipalities with or without Official Community Plans

Official Community Plans (OCPs) set out policies to govern land use and development, outline the municipalities' economic growth strategies, encourage environmental

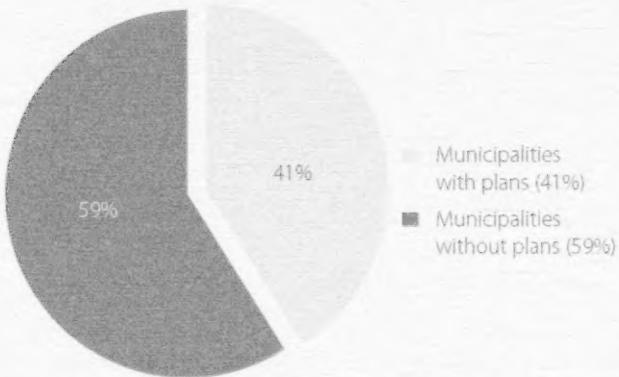
stewardship, plan sustainable infrastructure, support recreational opportunities, and address community interests. OCPs assist with planning and managing growth.

The majority of Saskatchewan's population lives in communities that have adopted OCPs, 82 per cent, which is an increase from 75 per cent in 2009-10. The percentage of municipalities with OCPs has also risen to 41 per cent, up from 36 per cent in 2009-10.



Source: Government Relations – Community Planning

Percentage of municipalities with or without Official Community Plans



Source: Government Relations – Community Planning

Number of grants approved through the Consultation Participation Fund for First Nations and Métis organizations

The First Nations and Métis Consultation Participation Fund provides financial assistance to First Nations and Métis communities to participate in consultations with government on project specific activities where a duty to consult is triggered.

Funding assistance for First Nations and Métis communities supports informed decision making and assists government in fulfilling its legal obligation to consult with First Nations and Métis communities in advance of decisions or actions that have the potential to adversely affect Treaty or Aboriginal rights. Five grants were approved in 2013-14.

Government Goal: Quality of Life

Strategy - Be an enabling partner in building safe, healthy and vibrant communities

Key Actions & Results

Ensure a robust Provincial Emergency Plan that addresses all emergencies and an effective Provincial Emergency Operations Centre

- The Provincial Emergency Plan was field tested at Exercise Domino, a collaborative training opportunity involving the ministry, the City of Saskatoon, the Water Security Agency, Public Safety Canada and SaskPower, in Saskatoon in October 2013.
- The Provincial Emergency Operational Plan was updated.

Manage provincial resources to support municipalities facing emergency situations through the delivery of preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery initiatives that complement local and regional capabilities

- To assist with preparedness efforts:
 - The ministry hosted 12 preparedness information sessions, located near at-risk communities. The sessions occurred in two phases. The first phase provided information to municipalities and First Nations communities. An average of 50 to 60 urban, rural, and First Nations officials attended each of these seven meetings, for a total of 422 representatives in attendance. The second phase provided information specific to First Nations communities at risk of flooding. This occurred during five sessions, which were attended by 23 First Nations representatives.
- The ministry began the development of a province-wide public alerting system that will enable residents to receive up-to-the-minute information about developing emergency situations.

- The ministry meets regularly with SUMA and SARM to discuss how communities can be better prepared for emergencies. These discussions include representatives from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and the Ministry of Environment.
- In support of communities, the ministry deployed over 600,000 sandbags and 6,000 feet of flood barrier through the operations and logistics sections.
- To assist with response efforts:
 - Ministry Rapid Response Teams were deployed 289 times in support of communities during the 2013 flooding. This assistance involved delivery of equipment, a safety orientation, and direct assistance with installation if required by the community.
 - In particular, the Rural Municipalities of Great Bend, Blaine Lake, Wilton, Fish Creek, Rosthern, Humboldt, Corman Park, and Meeting Lake; the communities of Radisson, Wilton, Rosthern, St. Louis, Maidstone, and Borden; and Poundmaker, Sakimay, Onion Lake, Muscowpetung, Cowessess, and James Smith First Nations saw flood responses of at least a few days and, in some cases, in excess of two weeks.
 - The ministry continues to work with Canadian National Railway (CN), Saskatchewan municipalities and stakeholders to improve agency cooperation, coordinate training sessions with CN and local responders, and coordinate with the other western provinces to implement best practices in emergency management.

Support greater public safety in Saskatchewan communities by reviewing municipal emergency plans against established criteria and advising on potential improvements

- During preparation for the 2013 runoff, the ministry assisted communities with their emergency plans.
- Meetings were held specifically for First Nations communities at the First Nations Emergency Management Forum. This event brought together First Nations, the Province of Saskatchewan, Health Canada, and emergency service providers to discuss planning, training and best practices, as well as to assist communities in updating and enhancing their emergency plans.

Maintain and improve provincial emergency communications systems, such as the Sask911 system and the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network, including technology enhancements to improve portable radio coverage and network resiliency

- In 2013, Sask911 received 313,191 calls for emergency response.
- The Sask911 program is currently undergoing several major developments to improve service and increase functionality. These developments include:
 - Next Generation 9-1-1 project, which will see the entire 9-1-1 system upgraded to a Voice-over-Internet-Protocol (VOIP) Solution.
 - Civic Addressing program, which aims to provide standardized street addressing throughout the province, and will enable easier dispatch of emergency response services, particularly to rural areas.
 - As of January 2014, 260 Provincial Public Safety Telecommunication Network (PPSTN) repeater sites were in operation enabling signals to be transmitted and received over a wide area with seven more sites in the planning stages.
 - With capital funding of \$760,000 in 2013-14, the PPSTN enhanced network coverage and resiliency by adding four new sites at Bruno, Insinger, Wolseley, and Nokomis. Three site relocations were completed at Saskatoon, Estevan, and Hudson Bay. Generators were purchased and installed at 18 sites throughout the province.

Provide an effective disaster financial assistance program to meet critical needs of those impacted by natural and other disasters

- In order to address the increased frequency and severity of natural disasters, as well as the expanded demand for services by provincial stakeholders, the ministry implemented a number of measures within the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP), including:
 - Relocating all PDAP resources into a single location.
 - Streamlining claim processing.
 - Improving the file management and tracking system.
 - Improving the Management Reporting and Claim Query System.

- For the reporting period March 25, 2013 to March 31, 2014:
 - 153 municipalities and ten First Nations communities were designated as eligible disaster areas.
 - The total number of claims within the program (2010-13) increased from 16,006 to 16,786 (780 new claims).
 - 2,247 claims were closed.
 - The percentage of closed claims increased from 86.7 per cent to 96.0 per cent.
 - 2,806 payments were made, totalling \$40.4 million.
 - The PDAP Call Centre received 7,450 calls for claim and general program information.
- PDAP staff attended, consulted, and provided advice on the program with stakeholders at the following annual conventions or major forums:
 - Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association, SARM, SUMA, Aboriginal Government Employees Network Conference, Saskatchewan First Nations Emergency Management Forum, and Tribal Council meetings.
 - Staff delivered training to adjusters, appraisers, and engineers to ensure accuracy, efficiency, and consistency.
 - Staff attended six recovery centres following 2013 disasters to provide support to local officials and individual claimants.
 - PDAP staff were deployed to Alberta to assist with the administration of Alberta's 2013 Disaster Recovery Program.

Improve home security for seniors

- The Seniors Home Security Program provides free home security assessments and home safety devices to low-income seniors and seniors who have been victims of break-ins or home invasions throughout the province.

| Year of Program | Communities | Applications Received | Applications Completed |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 2011-12 (Pilot) | 1 | 149 | 149 |
| 2012-13 | 5 | 129 | 129 |
| 2013-14 | 112 | 279 | 224* |
| Total Applications | | 557 | 502 |

*53 applications require additional information and will be processed in 2014-15; two applications were ineligible at March 31, 2014.

Work with the municipal sector and its associations to:

- *increase the quality and quantity of asset management resources and training available to the sector; and,*
- *develop and deliver, as appropriate, training opportunities and resources related to community planning, leadership and other topics where a mutual priority is identified.*
- The Asset Management Working Group is an internal group that helps develop strategic direction on asset management initiatives, and develops resources for municipalities, such as the *Asset Management Getting Started Guide*. The group may also assist on asset management pilot projects that are led by the municipal sector.
- Staff designed and delivered seven workshops on planning and appeal board processes to a total of 190 participants. Presentations were also made at both the SUMA and SARM conventions on general planning issues.
- The ministry provided ongoing advice to municipalities on infrastructure services and servicing agreements needed to support subdivisions and development.
- Additional asset management-related content was added to the financial and strategic planning module of the Municipal Leadership Development Program.
- The ministry delivered 19 workshops and presentations to almost 1,300 administrative and elected municipal officials related to administrative and legislative matters, tax enforcement, and roles and responsibilities of municipal elected officials. Attendees reported a satisfaction rate of 99 per cent.
- The Northern Municipal Trust Account provided funding over two years to the New North Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities Services Inc. to plan, coordinate, and assist in the delivery of financial management software, hardware, and training to northern hamlets. The objective was to enhance the capacity of northern hamlets to effectively manage their finances.
- An additional \$301,352 in funding from the federal Gas Tax program was approved to extend the Planning for Growth North program to December 31, 2015. This supplements the \$203,523 received in prior years.
 - Of the 35 communities in the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District, 30 have passed council resolutions to participate in the program.

- Eight communities have adopted or are in the process of adopting their OCPs and zoning bylaws, and plans are near completion for three other communities.
- An additional eight communities have plans that are in draft phase, undergoing and fulfilling the public participation requirements of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*. Another 11 communities are interested and waiting to begin their OCPs and zoning bylaws.

Coordinate the implementation of Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) and Specific Claims Agreements and lead negotiations of TLE claims with Canada and First Nations

- The ministry continued to work to fulfill the government's obligations with respect to TLE and Specific Claims Agreements. This included the coordination and implementation of the agreements across government. Implementation issues are discussed as they arise with First Nations, the federal government, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations through the TLE Joint Technical Working Group.
- A TLE workshop was held that successfully brought together First Nations, government, and industry representatives to discuss economic development challenges and opportunities and involved over 130 participants.
- The ministry provided policy leadership and worked collaboratively with other ministries, agencies, and Crown corporations on First Nation land claim matters.
- The ministry continued to lead provincial involvement in negotiations, modelled on the Saskatchewan *Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement*, between Canada, Saskatchewan, and three First Nations: Ahtahkakoop, Mistawasis, and Sakimay First Nations.

Identify opportunities to work with the federal government on initiatives related to improving social and economic outcomes for First Nations and Métis people

- The ministry continued to participate on the Aboriginal Affairs Working Group. This group brings together provincial and territorial ministers of Aboriginal Affairs and leaders of the five national Aboriginal organizations to work on issues, such as education and economic development.

Work with ministries to engage First Nations and Métis and provide policy advice on integrated solutions across priority areas of the Saskatchewan Children and Youth Agenda

- The Children and Youth Agenda was renamed the Child and Family Agenda to broaden its scope to include families. The ministry continued to participate on senior inter-ministerial committees to implement the agenda, and continued to work with First Nations and Métis representative organizations to support First Nations and Métis engagement.

Lead development and implementation of a "Northern Action Plan" that has a primary objective of reducing suicide rates and drug use among northern Saskatchewan youth (2010 Mandate Letter)

- In the final year of a three-year government commitment, the ministry undertook the following initiatives in northern Saskatchewan:
 - It funded and assisted a 13-agency volunteer group – the Embracing Life Committee – to organize a two-day Embracing Life Workshop in Prince Albert on October 29-30, 2013, that attracted over 150 northern participants.
 - In follow-up to the workshop, the ministry provided funding to support 17 northern community-based Embracing Life projects that focus on such priority areas as: embracing life/suicide prevention; preventing addictions; northern youth development and leadership; training in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention; and engaging northern Elders.
 - Work also continued, for a second year, with the Northern Village of Pinehouse to develop and track community-level social indicators for the community's social development project.
 - The ministry authorized supplementary research to complement a Northern Mental Health and Addictions Needs Assessment, completed by Lac La Ronge Indian Band Health Services in June 2013.

Making Saskatchewan the Best Place in Canada for Persons with Disabilities (Saskatchewan Plan for Growth)

- The ministry was appointed as the lead on the transportation priority for the Saskatchewan Disability Strategy. The ministry identified stakeholders that should be consulted as part of the strategy, and began meetings with these groups to inform them of the strategy's purpose and collect input about issues facing people with disabilities.

The Government Relations budget provides an increase of \$325,000 to the Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities program. Total funding of \$3.5 million allows the program to expand to additional municipalities and doubles the capital grants available for paratransit buses. (Government Direction for 2013-14)

- Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities program operating grants totaling nearly \$3 million were dispersed to 79 municipalities, including five new municipalities that joined the program in 2013-14. Eleven program capital grants totalling \$550,000 were approved, including two that supported municipalities utilizing SUMA's central procurement services. Ten of the capital grants were for the replacements of accessible specialized transit vehicles and one was for the replacement of a wheelchair lift.

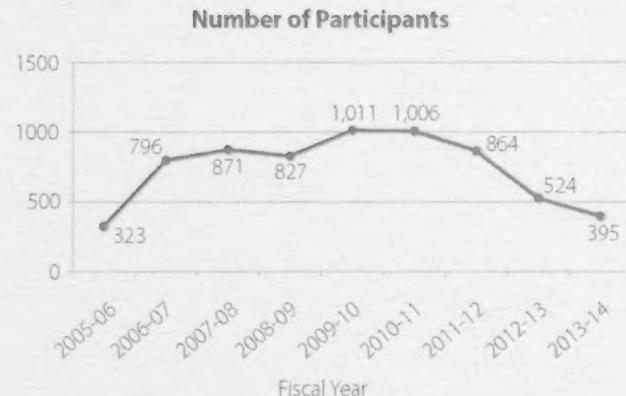
Performance Measures & Results

The following measures demonstrate progress in 2013-14 towards achieving the ministry's strategy to "be an enabling partner in building safe, healthy and vibrant communities."

Number of individuals participating in the Emergency Management Training Program

There is a direct relationship between the number of participants and the level of preparedness at the community level. Local authorities that invest in training and developing their emergency management programs improve overall public safety, are better prepared to respond to disasters within their community, reduce damage to properties and critical infrastructure, and enhance protection of the environment.

The Emergency Management Training Program provides training in the core essentials of an Emergency Management Framework through courses such as Basic Emergency Management, Emergency Operations Centre, Evacuation Contingency Planning, and Emergency Public Information. In 2013-14, 28 emergency management training sessions were provided in 22 locations across the province.



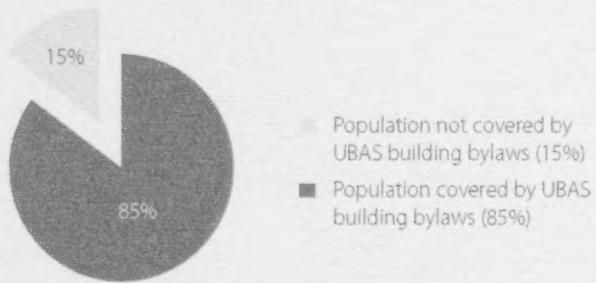
Source: Government Relations – Emergency Management and Fire Safety

Percentage of population and municipalities covered by The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act (UBAS) building bylaws

These measures demonstrate municipal leadership in public safety and enforcement of building standards that promote construction of safe buildings.

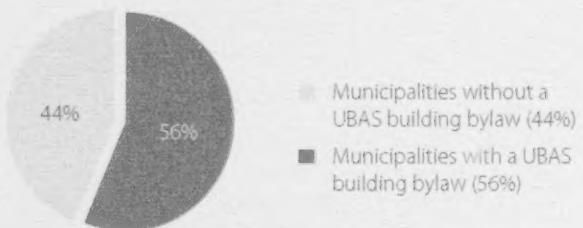
Municipalities with building bylaws in place represent 85.2 per cent of the province's population (based on the 2011 Census), an increase of four per cent from 2009-10.

Percentage of population covered by UBAS



Source: Government Relations – Building Standards and Licensing

Percentage of municipalities with a building bylaw pursuant to UBAS

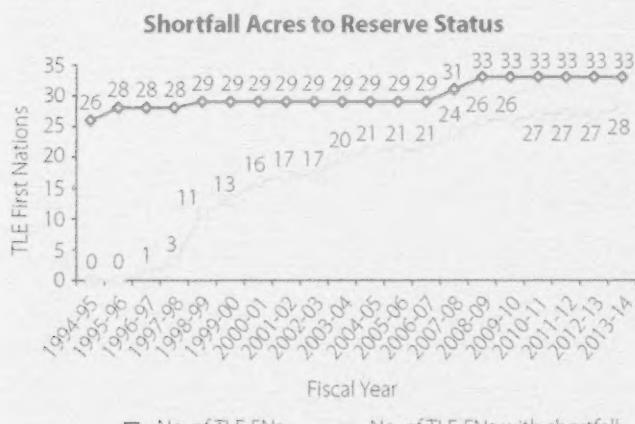


Source: Government Relations – Building Standards and Licensing

Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) First Nations that have achieved their shortfall acres

Progress on this measure is a key indicator of the ministry's success in meeting the provincial obligations related to TLE and contributing to the acquisition of shortfall acres by all TLE First Nations. The shortfall acres are the minimum amount of acres each TLE First Nation must acquire and transfer to reserve status before the outstanding Treaty land obligation is met.

As of March 31, 2014, 33 First Nations have signed TLE Settlement Agreements with Canada and Saskatchewan. Of those, 28 have acquired their shortfall acres.

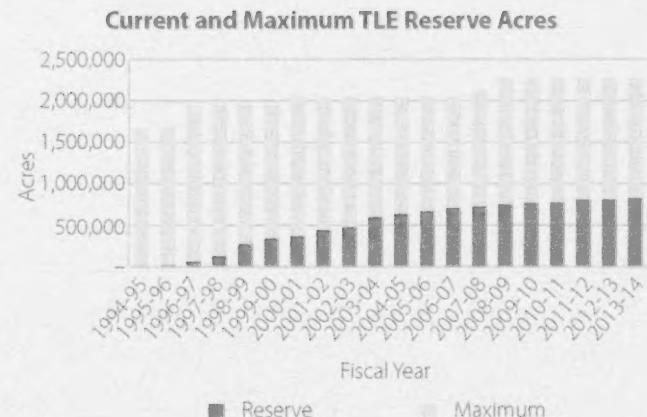


Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Treaty Land Entitlement reserve acres transferred in relation to the maximum number of acres available for transfer

Progress on the number of acres transferred to reserve status is a key indicator of the ministry's success in meeting provincial obligations with TLE and the reserve creation process.

Equity acres are the maximum amount of acres each TLE First Nation may acquire and transfer to reserve status. Once all TLE First Nations have acquired their equity acres, there will be no further reserve creation under the TLE agreements. However, TLE First Nations are not obligated to acquire their equity acres. The current 33 TLE First Nations are able to transfer a maximum of 2.3 million acres to reserve status. As of March 31, 2014, a total of 825,006 acres, or about one third of the maximum acres (2.3 million acres), have been transferred to reserve status.



Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Government Goal: Responsive and Responsible Government

Strategy - Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of ministry programs and services

Key Actions & Results

Sustain a culture of continuous improvement through the development of Lean capacity and the utilization of Lean tools to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of ministry processes. Examples in 2013-14 include:

- updating and modernizing the legislation and regulations pertaining to public safety;
- improving timeliness of federal cost-recovery submissions to the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements Program and maximizing potential cost recoveries; and,
- streamlining information sharing for government ministries, agencies, and Crowns on municipal and public safety information as well as the duty to consult and related processes.
- PDAP completed a Lean value stream mapping event in 2013. This resulted in several program improvements, such as:
 - Reducing the claim cycle time for private non-structural claims by an average of 47 per cent (from 277 days to 146 days); this has been accomplished by introducing a single-payment process.
 - Standardizing various forms and methods to collect claimant information.

- Streamlining the application process to consolidate information and eliminate duplication.
- Establishing uniform rates and formats for external adjusters and engineers.
- Engaging the Water Security Agency as subject matter experts in order to reduce time required to establish disaster designation areas.
- The province continues to work with Public Safety Canada to maximize cost recovery through the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements. PDAP has recovered \$155.2 million from Public Safety Canada for disaster events from 2005-11.
- Furthermore, PDAP has:
 - Reviewed and updated its guidelines.
 - Improved file management practices as part of a continuous process to ensure provincial cost recovery from the federal government.
 - Improved the quality of communications with the public on the program (e.g. website, printed information materials).

There were a number of other examples of continuous improvement efforts in the ministry:

- Officials developed better ways to share information across ministries, agencies, and Crown corporations to improve the duty to consult consultations and funding processes.
- Municipal information on population, expenditures, revenues, grants, assessment values, reserves, and debt continues to be collected to inform the annual SaskMuniMaps update. SaskMuniMaps is an interactive mapping system that provides municipal information in map and tabular form that can be used as a resource and to compare municipalities.
- The Municipal Information Dataportal has been expanded to include:
 - 2011 municipal financial data to SaskMuniMaps.
 - 2012 mill rate survey results for all property taxing authorities.
 - Updated information, analysis, and maps on municipal potash tax sharing.
 - Quarterly updates of average water and sewer costs for Saskatchewan municipalities.
 - Expanded information in the online Sustainability Tool Kit. This was provided to support municipalities that have used the Municipal Government Sustainability Self Assessment Tool.
 - Tax Tools Guide for Municipalities and the Review of Municipal Property Tax Tools report.

- *The Northern Municipalities Regulations* were amended to renew the Northern Capital Grants Program for another five-year term effective October 1, 2013, until September 30, 2018.
- The ministry continued to work with SaskWater to provide residential water and sewer rates information for Saskatchewan communities. The Ministry of Government Relations and the Ministry of Environment initiated a Lean initiative to better define their roles and responsibilities for jointly-administered mine surface lease agreements. This improved the use of plain English, added clarifying clauses, and restructured various sections and contents of the mine surface lease agreements to better reflect each ministry's roles and responsibilities. The results are more effective and timely services.
- There was ongoing streamlining of municipal annual expenditure reporting processes to aid with municipal compliance and accountability.

Continue implementation of Saskatchewan Municipal Board review component findings and recommendations in consultation with the board and the municipal sector

- Municipal legislation was amended in 2013 relating to the municipal annexation process and municipal borrowing.
- The ministry completed the final components of its review of the Saskatchewan Municipal Board (SMB) – assessment appeal and planning and development appeal processes.

Ensure our legislation, regulations, and policies align with our commitment to be effective partners in supporting growth and enhancing the quality of life for Saskatchewan people

- Amendments were introduced to *The Municipalities Act* that would:
 - Introduce population and other criteria for unincorporated areas to establish as new organized hamlets.
 - Allow for the voluntary restructuring of urban and rural municipalities together into a municipal district.
 - Require dissolution if a municipality is non-compliant with statutory requirements for two years or more and no longer meets minimum population criteria for two consecutive censuses.
 - Provide opportunity for citizens to petition their council to conduct and make public the results of a financial or management audit.

- Prevent the misuse and misapplication of tax tools and abatements.
- Amendments to *The Assessment Management Agency Act* were made to ensure the agency is properly funded to provide its services to the municipal and education sectors. This will guarantee a fairer balance of financial responsibility between municipalities and the province and will enable a user pay approach for assessment services for municipalities.
- *The Municipalities Regulations* and *The Northern Municipalities Regulations* were amended to increase road maintenance rates by 37.1 per cent over a two year period.
- A draft annexation compensation guideline and formula were developed in consultation with the SMB and the municipal sector.
 - Detailed analysis of the draft compensation formula was carried out, including an analysis of past voluntary and involuntary agreements using the proposed calculation.
 - A discussion paper and user manual for the municipal sector were developed and used in consultations with the municipal sector.
 - Consultations with the municipal sector were undertaken until January 2014. Further face-to-face consultations with SARM, RMAA, SUMA, and UMAAS were initiated to explore if gaps can be bridged between all parties on a fair and equitable approach to annexation compensation.

Support government efforts to pursue additional education property tax reductions (2010 Mandate Letter)

- Education Property Tax (EPT) mill rates were approved for the province and the City of Lloydminster. The 2014 taxation year EPT mill rates will remain the same, maintaining government's decision to keep EPT revenue neutral in terms of the 2013 revaluation.
- Monthly, interim, and annual EPT returns for municipal reporting of EPT were received by the ministry.
- A database has been created for tracking and analysis of EPT. The ministry also created automated forms that comply with government's website requirements and to increase the accuracy and timing of processing EPT returns.
- The ministry enhanced the municipality accountability for and compliance with EPT collection, remission and reporting requirements. Compliance for the returns is now at 97 per cent.

Identify, evaluate and initiate strategic and innovative improvements to Saskatchewan's local government system (2010 Mandate Letter)

- A new Lloydminster Charter came into effect January 1, 2013, updating the City's legal framework for governance and administration consistent with renewed municipal legislation of both Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Develop new policies and a common framework to provide consistency and fairness in municipal land annexation agreements (Saskatchewan Plan for Growth)

- Amendments to municipal Acts and *The Municipal Board Act* passed in spring 2013 to ensure municipalities attempt mediation to resolve disputes and improve/expedite processes when disputed applications go to the SMB for adjudication/decision.

Municipalities must move aggressively and proactively to remove barriers to growth (Saskatchewan Plan for Growth)

- Municipal Acts were amended in 2013 to enable inter-municipal business licensing arrangements among municipalities, including those in other provinces. This enables businesses or types of businesses to operate across participating jurisdictions under a single business license. A guide to inter-municipal business licensing has been posted on the ministry's website and was sent to the municipal associations, The Canadian Federation of Independent Business, and The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Work through the New West Partnership to reduce inter-provincial barriers to economic growth (Saskatchewan Plan for Growth)

- Municipal Acts were amended in 2013 to clarify that all municipal purchasing policies must comply with provincial, national, and international agreements related to municipal procurement.
- *The Assessment Appraisers Act*, associated regulations, and regulatory bylaws were amended, completing the removal of identified labour mobility barriers under the New West Partnership Trade Agreement.
- At the request of the Saskatchewan Assessment Appraisers' Association (SAAA), the ministry drafted amendments to *The Assessment Appraiser Regulations*, in consultation with the SAAA, SAMA, and other assessment appraiser employers, regarding education and experience requirements for Municipal Assessment Appraiser of Saskatchewan and Municipal Rural Assessment Appraiser of Saskatchewan designations to better reflect the changing assessment appraisal environment in the province.

- New planning profession legislation was passed in spring 2013 updating *The Community Planning Profession Act* to provincial standards and national professional designations and examinations; new regulatory bylaws of the Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute were approved and are in force.

Regulatory reform and modernization (Saskatchewan Plan for Growth)

- The ministry developed a multi-year, rolling legislative and regulatory review agenda.
- Six obsolete statutes and two obsolete regulations were repealed in 2013.

2013 - 14 Financial Overview

Financial Results

Actual appropriated expenditures were \$526.4 million, representing an increase of \$49.4 million over the Government Relations appropriation budget of \$477.0 million. This increase is primarily attributable to:

- higher than anticipated claim and program administration costs for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (\$44.2 million);
- higher than anticipated casino profits resulting in increased gaming agreement payments (\$4.7 million);
- Emergency Management and Fire Safety pressures, primarily spring flooding preparation and response costs (\$3.6 million); and,
- increased municipal compliance under the Gas Tax program (\$2.8 million);

partially offset by:

- net savings across the ministry, primarily due to expenditure restraint, vacancy management, and lower than anticipated operating funding requirements (\$5.9 million).

Supplementary funding of \$50.3 million was provided to the ministry to address pressures within the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program, gaming agreements, Emergency Management and Fire Safety, and for the Gas Tax program. Overall, as a result of internal under-expenditures, \$0.9 million or 0.2 per cent of available funding was not utilized.

The 2013-14 revenue budget was \$67.7 million. Actual revenue was \$71.3 million, representing an increase of approximately \$3.6 million over budget. This increase is primarily attributable to:

- higher than anticipated refunds to the General Revenue Fund, primarily for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program where actual claim settlements were lower than the estimated accounts payable that had been set up (\$14.2 million);

partially offset by:

- an adjustment made to federal revenue for Disaster Financial Assistance to reflect actual anticipated cost recovery (\$7.9 million); and,
- lower than anticipated federal revenue for the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component as a result of infrastructure project delays (\$2.7 million).

The 2013-14 Full-time Equivalent (FTE) budget was 223.1. Actual FTE utilization was 274.4, representing an over-utilization of 51.3 FTEs. The over-utilization is the result of hiring term staff within the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program to process claims.

Summary of Expenditures

The following table summarizes budgeted versus actual expenses by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than five per cent and \$100,000.

| <i>In thousands of dollars</i> | 2012-13 Actual | 2013-14 Budget | 2013-14 Actual | Variance Over/(Under) | Notes |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Subvote/Subprogram | | | | | |
| Central Management and Services | 10,272 | 10,590 | 9,471 | (1,119) | |
| Minister's Salary | 54 | 47 | 47 | — | |
| Executive Management | 1,314 | 1,227 | 990 | (237) | 1 |
| Central Services | 6,005 | 6,307 | 5,679 | (628) | 2 |
| Accommodations Services | 2,899 | 3,009 | 2,755 | (254) | 3 |
| First Nations and Métis Engagement | 91,154 | 79,383 | 82,615 | 3,232 | |
| First Nations and Métis Relations | 2,547 | 2,994 | 2,265 | (729) | 4 |
| Treaty Land Entitlement | 2,482 | 2,209 | 2,068 | (141) | 5 |
| First Nations and Métis Consultation Participation Fund | 71 | 600 | 25 | (575) | 6 |
| Métis Development Fund | 3,553 | 3,589 | 2,003 | (1,586) | 7 |
| First Nations Gaming Agreements | 82,501 | 69,991 | 76,254 | 6,263 | 8 |
| Municipal and Northern Engagement | 367,692 | 375,514 | 375,685 | 171 | |
| Urban Revenue Sharing | 151,794 | 170,003 | 169,852 | (151) | |
| Rural Revenue Sharing | 68,984 | 74,713 | 74,847 | 134 | |
| Northern Revenue Sharing | 16,618 | 19,716 | 19,716 | — | |
| Provincial/Territorial Base Fund | 8,503 | 1,368 | 769 | (599) | 9 |
| Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component | 4,192 | 4,851 | 4,851 | — | |
| Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund | 439 | — | — | — | |
| Building Canada Fund – Communities Component | 19,553 | 9,459 | 8,883 | (576) | 10 |
| Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative | 5,706 | 5,290 | 5,060 | (230) | 11 |
| Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities Program | 3,212 | 3,537 | 3,537 | — | |
| Grants-in-Lieu of Property Taxes | 12,421 | 12,655 | 12,639 | (16) | |
| Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency | 9,565 | 10,087 | 10,087 | — | |
| Municipal and Northern Relations | 7,172 | 7,530 | 6,562 | (968) | 12 |
| Gas Tax Program | 56,133 | 56,055 | 58,815 | 2,760 | |
| Provincial Municipal Support Program | 3,400 | — | — | — | |
| Regional Planning Authorities | — | 250 | 67 | (183) | 13 |
| Saskatchewan Municipal Board | 1,360 | 1,746 | 1,593 | (153) | 14 |
| Public Safety | 121,192 | 9,807 | 57,054 | 47,247 | |
| Emergency Management and Fire Safety | 5,989 | 3,701 | 7,298 | 3,597 | 15 |
| Building Standards and Licensing | 1,143 | 1,296 | 1,292 | (4) | |
| Provincial Disaster Assistance Program | 112,744 | 2,650 | 46,816 | 44,166 | 16 |
| Public Safety Telecommunications | 1,316 | 2,160 | 1,648 | (512) | 17 |
| Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network | — | — | (3) | (3) | |
| Initial Appropriation and Actual Expenditures | 591,670 | 477,040 | 526,415 | 49,375 | |
| Supplementary Funding | | 50,283 | | (50,283) | |
| Total Appropriation | 591,670 | 527,323 | 526,415 | (908) | |
| Capital Asset Acquisitions | (1,315) | (2,160) | (1,878) | 282 | 18 |
| Capital Asset Amortization | 2,284 | 2,429 | 2,405 | (24) | |
| Total Expense | 592,639 | 527,592 | 526,942 | (650) | |

Explanation of major variances

1. Vacancy management and miscellaneous operating under-expenditures.
2. Vacancy management and miscellaneous operating under-expenditures.
3. Accommodation savings, as a result of reduced space requirements.
4. Expenditure restraint, vacancy management and miscellaneous operating under-expenditures.
5. Tax loss compensation requirements less than budgeted due to the level of reserve land creation activity.
6. Fewer applications and payments than anticipated.
7. Profits reported by Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation lower than anticipated.
8. Profits reported by Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority higher than anticipated.
9. Lower than anticipated payments, as a result of progress of projects.
10. Under-expenditure as a result of project costs coming in lower than previously expected.
11. Lower interest rates and less borrowing by municipalities than originally anticipated.
12. Expenditure restraint, vacancy management and miscellaneous operating under-expenditures.
13. Expenditure restraint.
14. Vacancy management and miscellaneous operating under-expenditures.
15. Spring flooding preparation and response costs higher than anticipated.
16. Costs to provide disaster assistance to claimants significantly higher than anticipated.
17. Reduced capital spending due to lower than anticipated project costs.
18. Reduced capital spending due to lower than anticipated project costs.

Summary of Revenues

The ministry's major revenue relates to agreements with the federal government. All revenue collected is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. A summary of the ministry's 2013-14 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below. Explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than \$100,000.

| <i>in thousands of dollars</i> Revenue Category | 2013-14 Budget | 2013-14 Actual | Variance Over/(Under) | Notes |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Other Enterprise and Funds | 250 | 193 | (57) | |
| Sask911 | 250 | 193 | (57) | |
| Other Licences and Permits | 879 | 1,058 | 179 | |
| Subdivision Fees | 500 | 626 | 126 | 1 |
| Licensing Fees | 379 | 432 | 53 | |
| Sales, Services and Service Fees | 54 | 109 | 55 | |
| Debenture Authorization | 35 | 84 | 49 | |
| Miscellaneous Services | 4 | 13 | 9 | |
| Other Service Fees | 15 | 12 | (3) | |
| Other Miscellaneous Revenue | 5 | 14,214 | 14,209 | |
| Refunds – Previous Year's Expenditures | 5 | 14,178 | 14,173 | 2 |
| Casual Revenue | – | 35 | 35 | |
| Other | – | 1 | 1 | |
| Other Federal/Provincial Agreements | 66,533 | 55,695 | (10,838) | |
| Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) | 300 | – | (300) | 3 |
| Gas Tax Program | 56,055 | 56,055 | – | |
| Building Canada Fund – Communities Component | 9,977 | 7,312 | (2,665) | 4 |
| Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund | – | (96) | (96) | |
| Joint Emergency Preparedness Program | – | 84 | 84 | |
| Critical Infrastructure | – | 26 | 26 | |
| Disaster Financial Assistance | – | (7,887) | (7,887) | 5 |
| Employability Assistance | 201 | 201 | – | |
| Total Revenue | 67,721 | 71,269 | 3,548 | |

Explanation of major variances

1. Higher than anticipated subdivision activity.
2. Actual Provincial Disaster Assistance Program claim settlements lower than the estimated accounts payable.
3. Claims submitted for 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14; however, no revenue recognized since AANDC is in the process of reviewing claims for reimbursement.
4. Lower than anticipated revenue due to project delays caused by timing of approvals for new projects, contractor availability and projects completed under budget.
5. Adjustment made to anticipated cost recovery as a result of the identification of ineligible costs.

Financial Accountability Statement

Government Relations is responsible for ensuring:

- public accountability for government finances entrusted to the ministry;
- fiscally responsible management of its resources and financial affairs;
- compliance with existing legislation and regulations;
- systems and controls are in place to safeguard public assets; and
- appropriate results are reported to the public and the legislature.

There are a number of external controls in place to monitor these responsibilities. They include:

Audited Results – The Provincial Auditor's Office has legislative responsibility to audit the ministry. Audit conclusions are published in a report to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. If a deficiency is reported by the Provincial Auditor, the ministry may be called to appear before the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature.

Accountable to Legislature – The ministry's annual budget is detailed in the Saskatchewan Provincial Budget Estimates. The ministry is called to appear before a Legislative Committee to defend the ministry's budget estimates.

Public Reporting – Expense and revenue details as they pertain to the ministry are published in the ministry's Annual Report, and Public Accounts Volumes 1 and 2.

For More Information

Additional information about the Ministry of Government Relations is available at:

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/ministries/government-relations>. The website includes general and detailed information about the ministry, its key programs, special studies, and legislation for which the ministry is responsible.

For more information about Government Relations, or to provide feedback about our 2013-14 Annual Report or performance results, please contact us at:

Phone: (306) 798-6093 E-mail: GR-Inquiry@gov.sk.ca

Mailing address: Ministry of Government Relations, 1855 Victoria Avenue Regina, SK S4P 3T2

Appendix A: Acts and Regulations

The Minister of Government Relations is assigned the administration of the following Acts and Regulations, except insofar as another minister is assigned the administration of the Act:

- The Amusement Ride Safety Act
 - *The Amusement Ride Safety Regulations*
- The Assessment Appraisers Act
 - *The Assessment Appraisers Regulations*
- The Assessment Management Agency Act
 - *The Assessment Management Agency Regulations*
- The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act, 1999
 - *The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Regulations*
- The Border Areas Act
- The Cities Act
 - *The Cities Regulations*
- The City of Lloydminster Act
- The Community Planning Profession Act, 2013
- The Controverted Municipal Elections Act
- The Department of Rural Development Act
 - *jointly assigned to the Minister of Government Relations and the Minister of the Economy except with respect to clauses 7(a), (d) and (e) which are jointly assigned to the Minister of Government Relations, the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of the Economy*
- The Department of Urban Affairs Act
 - *except clause 7(b) which is assigned to the Minister of Social Services*
- The Electrical Licensing Act
 - *The Electrical Contractor's Guarantee Bond Regulations, 1988*
 - *The Electrical Licensing Fees Regulations*
 - *The Electrical Licensing Exemption Regulations*
- The Emergency 911 System Act
 - *The Public Safety Answering Point Regulations, 2011*
- The Emergency Planning Act
 - *The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program Regulations, 2011*
- The Emergency Services Telecommunication Program Regulations (under The Government Organization Act)
- The Fire Prevention Act, 1992
 - *The Saskatchewan Fire Code Regulations*
 - *The Fire Insurance Fees and Reporting Regulations*
- The Flin-Flon Extension of Boundaries Act, 1952
- The Gas Licensing Act
 - *The Gas Licensing Regulations*
- The Local Government Election Act
 - *The Local Government Election Regulations, 2006*
- The Local Improvements Act, 1993
 - *The Local Improvements Forms Regulations, 1991*
- The Municipal Board Act
 - *The Saskatchewan Municipal Board Fees Regulations*
 - *The Saskatchewan Municipal Board Member Qualification Regulations, 2003*
- The Municipal Expropriation Act

- The Municipal Grants Act
 - *The Municipal Grants Regulations*
- The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act
 - *General Regulations under The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act*
- The Municipalities Act
 - *The Municipalities Regulations*
- The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010
 - *The Northern Municipalities Regulations*
- The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act
 - *The Passenger and Freight Elevator Regulations, 2003*
- The Planning and Development Act, 2007
 - *The Subdivision Regulations*
 - *The Dedicated Lands Regulations, 2009*
 - *The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations*
- The Rural Development Act
 - *jointly assigned to the Minister of Government Relations and the Minister of the Economy*
- The Rural Municipal Administrators Act
- The Tax Enforcement Act
 - *The Tax Enforcement Regulations*
- The Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan Act
- The Time Act
 - *The Time Act General Regulations*
- The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act
 - *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Regulations*
 - *The Building and Accessibility Standards Administration Regulations*
- The Urban Municipal Administrators Act
- The Urban Municipality Act, 1984

The Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs is assigned the administration of the following Acts and Regulations, except insofar as another minister is assigned the administration of the Act:

- The Indian and Native Affairs Act
 - *except clause 7(b) which is jointly assigned to the Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs and the Minister of the Economy.*
- The Métis Act
- The Northern Affairs Act
 - *jointly assigned to the Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs and the Minister of the Economy.*
- The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act, but only with respect to:
 - *Part III.01; and*
 - *the powers, duties and functions conferred or imposed on the minister and the Minister of Finance pursuant to Part III.1*
- The Saskatchewan Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (Treaty Land Entitlement) Act
- The Treaty Land Entitlement Implementation Act

Appendix B: Organizational Chart

Organizational Chart as of March 31, 2014

